

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takahiro FUCHIGAMI et al.
Title: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD
Appl. No.: To Be Assigned
Filing Date: August 6, 2001
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Box PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Document A1 discloses an image processor in which image signals of an image and the feature signal (identification data) of each pixel of the image are generated by the controller.

Document A2 is a co-pending U.S. patent application filed in the Patent Office on May 21, 2001.

Document A3 discloses an image processor in which tag data (identification data) are newly generated based on the correspondence between the inputted pixel data and the tag data.

Document A4 discloses an imaging device in which the printing position of an image and character edge identification signals are corrected based on the result of image distortion detection.

Document A5 discloses an image processor in which image signals of an image and the feature signal (identification data) of each pixel of the image are generated by the controller, and, consequently, conditions in which feature signals are generated can be specified.

Document A6 discloses image signals of an image and the feature signal (identification data) of each pixel of the image are generated by the controller, but the image signals or the feature signals are not regenerated by the printer apparatus.

English translations of documents A1 and A3-A6 are not readily available; however, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609). English language abstracts are provided for documents A3-A6.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date August 6, 2001

FOLEY & LARDNER
Washington Harbour
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20007-5109
Telephone: (202) 672-5489
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By Johnny A. Kumar

Johnny A. Kumar
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 34,649

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				APPLICANT Takahiro FUCHIGAMI et al.			
				FILING DATE August 6, 2001		GROUP ART UNIT Unassigned	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	09/860,574		Yamamoto			05/21/2001
	A2	09/843,844		Yamamoto			04/30/2001
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	A3	2000-270213	09/29/2000	Japan			Abstract
	A4	11-348352	12/21/1999	Japan			Abstract
	A5	9-282472	10/31/1997	Japan			Abstract
	A6	9-282471	10/31/1997	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include any copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							